

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims replaces all prior versions:

1. (currently amended) A therapeutic method consisting essentially of the administration of an amount of oligo- β -(1,3)-glucan and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, to a human being or to a warm-blooded animal suffering from a cancer selected from the group consisting of breast cancer, lung cancer, oesophagus cancer, stomach cancer, intestinal cancer or colon cancer, in an amount which is effective to treat said cancer, and

wherein the oligo- β -(1,3)-glucan is β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)- β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)- β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)- β -D-glucopyranose or β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)- β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)- β -D-glucopyranosyl-(1 \rightarrow 3)- β -D-glucopyranose, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the administration of oligo- β -(1,3)-glucan stimulates NK cells in the human being or warm-blooded animal.

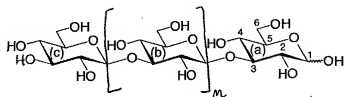
6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the administration of oligo- β -(1,3)-glucan stimulates the production of TNF-alpha in the human being or the warm-blooded animal.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition is administered intravenously, intraperitoneally or orally to the patient.

8-9. (Cancelled).

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in a form selected from the group consisting of a solution, suspension, syrup, tablet, capsule, injections, ointment, pulmonary, spray.

11. (Withdrawn) Pharmaceutical composition under the form of a solution, suspension, spray, aerosol, tablet capsule, injection, ointment, pulmonary aerosol comprising a therapeutically effective amount of oligo-1-3- β -glucan of formula (1)



in which $n=1$ to 7, preferably $n=2$ or $n=3$, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutical acceptable carrier, said composition being free of any other glucan.